

SYSTEM FOR MONITORING AND MANAGING INFORMATION AND INFORMATION TRANSFERS IN A COMPUTER NETWORK

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A monitoring and management system for the transfer of electronic messages, or
other information, over a digital network such as the Internet. In one embodiment, a
networked computer system transmits messages from a source to a destination and a central
management site provides tracking and delivery guarantees. The management site monitors
operation of the system and recovers statistical information regarding the delivery of the
10 messages or the messages themselves when requested using an open XML API. The system
includes a database associated with management site for counting the number of messages
delivered during a selected time period for billing purposes. Aspects of the system provide
for a secure transfer of messages, tracking, monitoring, archiving, automated responses,
statistics gathering and other features. The system provides for a plurality of route point
15 processors for routing messages independently of the internet service provider (ISPs) routers
and a unique forking algorithm whereby duplicate messages are generated and transmitted
along separate communication backbones. Messages are archived at an intermediate point in
the transmission path. The archival system and method provides a distributed archive that
stores messages to guarantee message delivery to the destination, assist in message recovery
20 and retains statistical information regarding the routing and delivery of the messages for
subsequent access.